[Mr. A. Hoogewerf.]

Independent Shop System in Cochin.

77. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the independent shop system was introduced in the bordering taluks of Cochin about ten years ago and why the same system was not introduced in the northern taluks of Travancore at that time?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The independent shop system in regard to toddy appears to have been introduced in the Cochin State in the year 1092 M. E. The great disparity in the rates of tree-tax prevailing in the two States prevented the introduction of the system in the northern taluks of Travancore.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Why were not the biennial contracts from 1094 to 1099 in the northern taluks given on the independent shop system?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The answer is given there:—"The great disparity in the rate of tree-tax prevailing in the two States prevented the introduction of the system in the northern taluks of Travancore."

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): It is stated that the system was introduced in Cochin in 1092. There were three biennial contracts after that. Why was not the independent shop system introduced in the northern taluks of Travancore also?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The disparity referred to still continues. That is the reason why it was not introduced in the northern taluks of Travancore.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Are the Government aware that the rentals are much higher in the Cochin State owing to the small tree-tax there?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes, the rentals are higher there.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Are the Government aware that the price of toddy on both sides of the border is equal?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): No.

Male Doctor in the Victoria Jubilee Hospital, Quilon.

78. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether Sub-Assistant Surgeon Mr. Sankaranarayana Aiyar, is still in the Victoria Hospital, Quilon;

(*b*) whether the appointment of a male doctor to a hospital where the in-patients are all women is not against the spirit of the Government order taking away the charge of the hospital from the doctor in

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